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FRIDAY, AUGUST 16, 1895.

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THE HODGKINS FUND PRIZES.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE APPOINTED BY THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION TO AWARD THE HODGKINS FUND PRIZES.

THE Committee of Award for the Hodgkins prizes of the Smithsonian Institution

has completed its examination of the two hundred and eighteen papers submitted in competition by contestants.

The Committee is composed of the following members:

Dr. S. P. Langley, chairman, *ex-officio*; Dr. G. Brown Goode, appointed by the Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution; Assistant Surgeon-General John S. Billings, by the President of the National Academy of Sciences; Professor M. W. Harrington, by the President of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

The Foreign Advisory Committee, as first constituted, was represented by Monsieur J. Janssen, Professor T. H. Huxley and Professor von Helmholtz; and after the recent loss of the latter, Dr. W. von Bezold was added. After consultation with these eminent men, the Committee decided as follows:

First prize, of ten thousand dollars, for a treatise embodying some new and important discoveries in regard to the nature or properties of atmospheric air, to Lord Rayleigh, of London, and Professor William Ramsay, of the University College, London, for the discovery of *Argon*, a new element of the atmosphere.

The second prize, of two thousand dollars, is not awarded, owing to the failure of any contestant to comply strictly with the terms of the offer.

The third prize, of one thousand dollars,